

CGA Minutes

9/12/2013

Members present: Niko, Vanessa, David, Ryan, Aaron, Angelica

Members not present: Dylan, Taylor, Ethan

## UPDATES

Niko: I'm trying to get in contact with physical plant yet again.

David: Compost system's back online. Somehow the tent we use - one of the metal arms got snapped in half. We've done a duct tape patch so I think it'll make it through the year. Also, last year just as summer was ending one of our physical plant guys decided to drive the front end loader prongs into our hose and cut it in half. Physical plant has given us an old hose that works for now so we've got water, it's just not the nice hose we used to have. And then the other hose I coiled up at the end of the year is gone now. I don't know where it went. I have my suspicions. I have to track that hose down, I like that hose. This semester we're actually gonna start distributing compost. It is ready for that and I will be weighing everything we distribute and that will be going into my thesis. I am looking into a trial run for two months, maybe on my own budget - I've been thinking of selling compost at the farmer's market. If that's successful, I would love to see other projects done with the compost. In the future we have the capability to build backyard compost reserves.

Angelica: Would the funds for that go back into the green fee, or...

David: That's something for us to discuss. Yeah, I think it should go into the green fee. It would pay down the grant that I was given to start the compost program and the wages of compost TAs. Also bear in mind for my thesis we're distributing lots of compost and from the schools' perspective, that's worth almost as much as I would gain in selling at the farmer's market. There's still a lot of benefit that we're gonna see this semester from compost spread around, but I still think this farmer's market is a good idea. It will help raise awareness in the community of what New College is trying to do for sustainability. I would get up really early in the morning, fill up two bins with compost, drive downtown, set up my tent. Dylan would help me. We'd have burlap bags with the New College symbol + four winds symbol. Burlap bags break down easily, as well. And I also want posters and handouts that say not just how it's made but where it's made and that by buying compost you're supporting students at NCF for sustainable development.

Niko: I have two more updates. I want to fertilize the fruit trees soon so I'm just gonna do that. It's not an official green fee thing. If you wanna come help, I want to put down some compost and then some mulch on top of that pretty soon, maybe this weekend. I want to talk to Dylan at some point about the compost TA pay to make an SAC request to increase it to three hours.

Vanessa: I'm gonna be meeting with the ESSC two weeks from now and the first CAA meeting is tonight. I really would like to see if I can address any problems there are with how the ES program currently is doing things. If you guys have any criticisms, give those to me so I can bring them to the attention of those who can actually do things. Right now, the next meeting, all

they're really going to talk about is stuff - like, certain course requirements, whether certain courses satisfy... this is the first meeting that I'm attending so I don't really know everything that they've been doing. I did attend that workshop they did last semester where they brainstormed ideas. They are thinking of ways that they can keep their faculty from leaving all the time. But I don't know whether that's a big priority in their minds. I would hope it would be. The ES program is really dependent on faculty and if they can't maintain faculty, that's necessary to run the program, then they have to think about other alternatives to having a full fledged program. The other problem is within said discipline is, if you don't have faculty willing to sponsor projects for environmental nature topics, how can you serve demands for that.

## **AGENDA**

### *Bike Program*

Ryan: We ordered through the bikeshop 12 new locks which will cover existing bikes as well as 5 baskets. We're gonna try that on trial basis. The baskets are really big. We can expand it if they're popular. Also, bike pumps - those are already in and I'm gonna take them and install them in front of Four Winds, library, Ham, and some other place.

Angelica: I feel like we should have a map of places you can bike to.

Ryan: I think last year there was something like that in Ham. I'm also meeting with Janine on Tuesday because by that point the locks should be in and we're gonna go out over the paper checkout process and make sure we are ready to launch this program. Assuming that goes smoothly, that should be ready for rental by this time next week. Regarding maps, I definitely agree, let's do it. I need to think about how I'd do it. I know there's a big blotter printer somewhere available... maybe not available for club stuff.

Angelica: We're technically not club stuff so maybe we can get permission?

Ryan: It would be a longer term thing but I could definitely do that myself. I'm gonna make a 1/4 page or 1/2 page flyer advertising bike shop and I'll see if I can integrate that map info. First years could use info on where destinations are.

Angelica: I don't think it's urgent, but would be nice.

### *Green Fee Workshop*

Niko: We said last meeting we wanted to aim for around the 29th of this month. Is that still good?

*\*all agree\**

Niko: I think I said I would do the SAC request. Dylan was wanting to help with food. And we got the flyer from last year. The date's wrong, but I don't have photoshop on my computer.

Ryan: I can change the date on the flyer.

Aaron: As for food, I know we briefly mentioned bringing in the Sushi bros? I talked with them and I talked with some people in student government and it's difficult for clubs to get funding for food. But we're not a club so it's probably easier and should be possible to do.

Niko: How much would a normal batch be? I should have that info for the SAC request.

Aaron: Usually we spend 50 on a batch of sushi... We'd have about 150 pieces of sushi for \$50. Also, we tend to make it actively there so would that be possible to have a space set aside to do that?

Niko: Yeah.

Ryan: Quick question about the date - the 29th of this month? A Sunday? You think Sunday's a good day? On Sunday folks could be burned out from the weekend. I always thought these things worked well during the week but I'm not the expert here.

Angelica: Saturday might be a bit better.

Ryan: Does a weekday work for anyone during that week? We could do Thursday at 5. That would be our meeting.

Vanessa: I cannot have another thing during the weekdays, I will explode inside.

Niko: I'm pretty indifferent. I feel weekends would have bit better turnout.

Angelica: But there's gonna be food so that'll improve turnout a lot. Especially the sushi bros. We might end up getting more people regardless of the day of week.

David: I vote for sticking with the weekend.

Niko: Why don't we do it Saturday afternoon in palm court. It's a little bit more public.

Ryan: I won't be able to make it.

Niko: We can just do it Sunday.

*\*everyone agrees\**

Angelica: I know in the past we've used blackboards or whiteboards, we have to make sure we have access to something like that in palm court, if we decide to do a projection thing would be better.

Ryan: Harkening back to last year's workshop, it seems like we need a blackboard, filtering out distractions, a place that isn't too noisy - maybe z green would work better?

Niko: i think that's a good point. I don't really see the advantage of z green over palm court

though, except for the shade. But I sort of agree with your general point. I would propose maybe just doing it in the same place as last year, HCL 7.

Ryan: That sounds fine to me. I like the idea of having something in palm court because it'll attract more attention. It might be a benefit to us.

Aaron: What's the general turnout for workshops in the past?

Niko: Last year we had 20-25 people. I thought maybe - I'm realizing we can roll a whiteboard from Ham out to palm court.

*\*everyone agrees\**

Angelica: Palm court has shade, and it'll be a couple weeks so maybe it'll be a little cooler? I think our biggest target group will be first years.

Vanessa: In a previous green fee workshop, a lot of the people who did show up were first years. Palm court is a great place.

Ryan: Maybe we can do the back of palm court, away from US41, with some chairs or something. Near the hater bench.

Niko: Hopefully there'll be shade. If it's really sunny we can just move it to z green.

Aaron: oh, Lando says \$40 for the sushi.

Ryan: That sounds great. Okay. Have we chosen a time yet? What are you guys thinking? Maybe like four?

Angelica: Yeah. That's what I was thinking.

Ryan: any objections to four? Sunday the 29th?

*\*no objections\**

Ryan: Assuming it's cool with the sushi bros, we'll assume four. What about promoting? Obviously flyers. I'm down to help out. I guess we wanna do that a week, week and a half in advance? **Next week's meeting, we'll discuss when we want to do the flyer stuff.**

### *Green Fee Ideas*

Niko: I just wanted to see if anyone had any ideas for this. Keep in mind we had a lot of extra money this year.

Ryan: We may have an extra grand as well if we don't buy any more bikes.

Angelica: CSA was talking about capital improvement money. They want ideas from us so possibly we may be able to contribute to that money to get a big project done. Potentially we

could do something with the solar water heating stuff here. Get some money for that.

Niko: I've been pushing for solar water heating and I'll probably get more details from Physical plant about that after I meet with them. But I don't even know who the head of physical plant is. I'm just gonna walk over there at some point and talk to somebody.

Ryan: Any other green fee ideas?

Aaron: I've had this idea for a while. I need to do more research into it. The lights on campus - they emit a lot of light pollution and I was wondering how difficult it would be to get directed lighting bulbs that only shine light downward and don't emit into the sky. Saves on energy consumption and doesn't emit light pollution.

### *Bike Share Discussion again*

Ryan: Anything else to discuss or bring up? I think the last agenda item is we just kinda - just to clarify regarding a fee for the bike share bikes. I think the discussion kinda ended with me not having a clear idea. Nico introduced the idea of reducing the rental period. My worry about that is we might change it again, there's been some backlash against shorter times. If we have bikes not being used, that would be a possible option. One thing - I spoke with other people who talked about instituting a 50 cent daily late fee, more as a threat than anything substantive. It's the kind of thing where we'd really only apply it in cases of flagrant abuse or repeat offenders, not as any sort of revenue source.

*\*everyone agrees\**

Vanessa: So instead of daily checkout, are you gonna do weekly checkout and institute the late fee?

Ryan: Right now we've lost several bikes and I need to go through the paper records. Right now we're down to 12 bikes. I think we're gonna do a next day return. If you pick it up any day Thursday, you can return it end of the day Friday. we can adjust that accordingly, having a continuous dialog with the rest of the fitness center staff to see what works. The campus fitness center closes at six instead of nine on weekends. Maybe we can add in another day to weekend rentals. The new bike shop TA, we're gonna keep a few extra bikes left over from students over the years as loaners. We're probably gonna sell some to students at low costs. The goal for the bikeshare program is really to replace car trips, not day to day campus travel. We're willing to adjust those things if the excess capacity is there.

Vanessa: The thing is I'm not sure how this is gonna reduce the backlash against daily checkout because you're gonna go ahead with it and having that late fee there ...

Ryan: The idea of the fee - the issue was a bunch of these bikes, it was rare for a bike to be returned on time. Because theres no incentive to turn the bike on time, a lot of bikes were just left in different places. Unless you guys have ideas for other incentives, so that this program is functional.

Vanessa: What I'm wondering is, before it was a weekly checkout. You can have a late fee and

still have it be a weekly thing. There's no reason why you couldn't have a late fee and also keep it weekly and see how that works before changing it into a daily thing.

Angelica: I don't know when people are getting out bikes and stuff, but like, you could also have an option to keep it out for all the weekdays of the week, and then if you get it on the weekend you return it on monday. I feel like people use them more on the weekends.

Niko: I was just gonna say that this policy does not have to last forever. Given that we were having a lot of lateness issues, it would be my opinion to try the daylong thing. That's my personal opinion.

Ryan: I think I agree. I want to make this system as flexible as possible. The issue is I just have no idea what demand is gonna be for this system. The bikes were bought before I transferred into NCF. Our plan here is to get a flyer in every mailbox, and I just don't really know what demand is gonna be like. I think a one day or next day return is helpful because it sends the message that this bike is really for like, weekly errands around town. Like I said, we're totally willing to change things around. In like a week we could decide to change that.

Vanessa: I think it's a good idea.

Ryan: I think that is it for the meeting. Any other questions?

*none. meeting adjourned.*